

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/497,421

Applicant(s)

CHAI ET AL.

Examiner

Art Unit

Lourdes C. Cruz

2827

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to a telephone interview held on 04-04-03.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-8 and 10-16.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.
5. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
 - (a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
6. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE**

7. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
8. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No. _____.
 - (b) ☒ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed 19 April 2001, which has been approved by the Examiner
 - (c) ☒ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. 50.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the top margin (not the back) of each sheet. The drawings should be filed as a separate paper with a transmittal letter addressed to the Official Draftsperson.

9. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 4 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. <u>50</u> |
| 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449), Paper No. _____ | 6 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | 8 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. J. De Luca on 04-04-03.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the claims:

In **claim 1**, line 2 of the claim, after "for attachment to the" insert —frame—

Also, amend **Claims 13 and 14** as follows:

13. A lead frame for an integrated circuit chip having a frame-engaging bottom surface, comprising a plurality of [unitary] sidebars having a uniform width, each of said sidebars having an inner side and an outer side, said sidebars defining a central aperture, said frame being sized to be accommodated entirely within corresponding outer edges of the circuit chip, each side bar having an upper chip-supporting surface for engaging the bottom surface of the chip.

14. A lead frame for an integrated circuit chip having a frame engaging bottom surface comprising:

[an apertured] a generally circular frame having a central aperture [said frame being generally circular and defining] forming an inner edge and an outer [defining a] peripheral edge [and having] defining a contact surface having a uniform width for securing the chip thereto, said edge being disposed within an outer chip edge for minimizing fillet formation.

Drawings

The examiner has approved the following changes to the drawings: All of the cross hatching patterns should be selected from those shown on page 600-81 of the MPEP based on the material of the part. Also see 35 CFR 184 (h)(3) and MPEP 608.02.

In order to avoid abandonment of the application, applicant must make these above drawing changes.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: There is prior art regarding apertured lead frames engaging the bottom surface of a semiconductor chip. For example, see Yoo et al. (US5661338) wherein all the above is disclosed.

However, the application as amended specifically recites (**claims 1,16**) a lead frame, an IC chip, said chip having outer edges, and an apertured frame including uniform sidebars for engaging the chip wherein the outer edges of the sidebars are recessed from the outer edges of the chip. All other independent claims recite a lead frame comprising a frame defining a central aperture and including side bars that are uniform in width, wherein the chip is disposed on the frame in such way that: no shoulder is formed/said frame is accommodated within outer edges of the chip.

The above specific limitations in combination with all other specific structural recitations in the claim, make up for a device that is neither obvious over nor anticipated by the prior art of record since the prior art fails to either alone or in combination anticipate the device as claimed. Therefore, the claimed invention is allowed.

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Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lourdes C. Cruz whose telephone number is 703-306-5691. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 10-6:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David L. Talbott can be reached on 703-305-9883. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-308-7722 for regular communications and 703-308-7722 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0956.

Lourdes C. Cruz
Examiner
Art Unit 2827


Lourdes Cruz
April 4, 2003


KAMAND CUNEO
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800